

**Representative Bill Posey's House Floor Remarks on Impeachment
December 18, 2019**

"Madam Speaker,

"I rise to oppose the articles of impeachment which have been produced by this flawed process, which was based on hearsay and testimony largely collected from a closed-door, one-sided investigation.

"In fact, the only witness we heard from who had direct knowledge of the conversation in question, testified that President Trump did not want a quid pro quo and confirmed that the aid to Ukraine was released without the launching of any investigation that the President's detractors say he was seeking.

"The two articles of impeachment in the resolution - abuse of power and obstruction of Congress - are broad and cite no specific crimes that the President committed. The House Democrats are basing the entire impeachment on hearsay testimonies grounded on absolutely no evidence of a crime.

"However, last week we had a look at some real wrongdoing. We found out from the Justice Department's Inspector General that the investigation into whether President Trump colluded with the Russians was based on fraudulent information filed with the secret court. The FBI was found to have withheld exculpatory evidence and senior FBI leaders were found to have manipulated facts in order to support this false collusion narrative, justify their investigation and expand it. This happened on multiple occasions.

"While the Mueller investigation found no collusion, some Members of Congress, like House Impeachment Leader Adam Schiff, knowingly promoted this falsehood and used similar tactics to engineer this impeachment inquiry. This is unacceptable.

"For the above reason, I voted to censor Chairman Adam Schiff and will vote against these articles of impeachment.

"We all know this shameful impeachment began the moment the President was elected, long before he ever had a single telephone call with any foreign government. We've heard the numerous quotations by those on the other side that validate that fact. And, yet the other side persists in attempting to over-turn the results of the legitimate election of President Donald W. Trump, because he dares to drain a swamp to which they are beholden.

"When the President calls for an investigation of corruption, the other side calls it 'digging for dirt.' When they dig for dirt, they call it an 'investigation'.

"This is a sad day for America. This impeachment is the worst case of partisan politics in the history of our Republic."